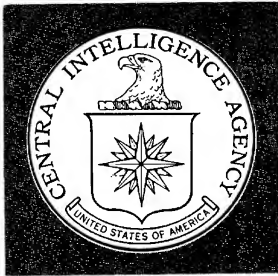


~~SENSITIVE~~

CIA/SAVA / WVIN 701121



WEEKLY VIETNAM INDICATORS

Week Ending 21 November 1970

NSA Declassification/Release Instructions on File.

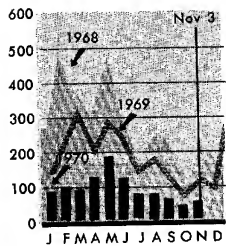
For the President Only

~~Top Secret~~

SOUTH VIETNAM WEEKLY INDICATORS

1968-1970

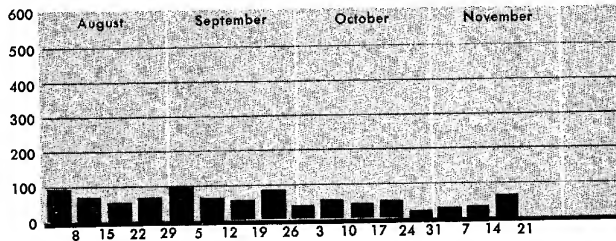
Weekly average for each month



AUGUST-NOVEMBER 1970

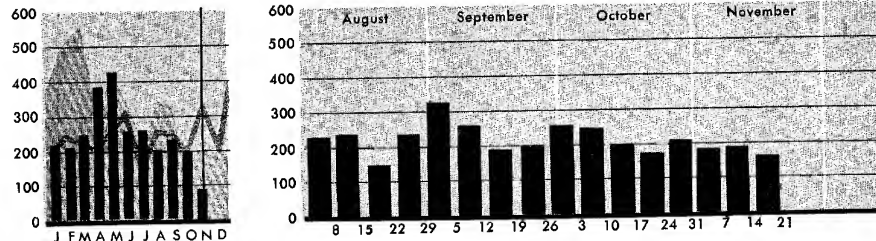
Weekly data as reported

US BATTLE DEATHS



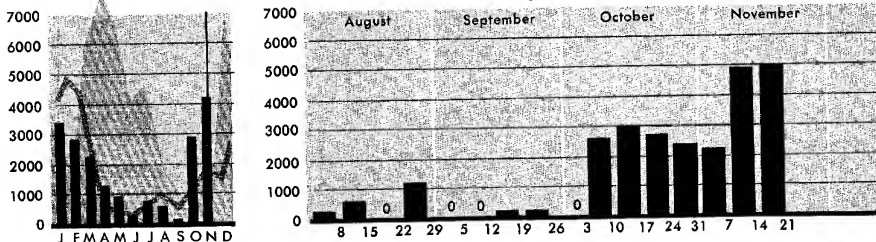
rose sharply to 63 from last week's 32 -- largely as a result of minings, boobytraps and helicopter crashes.

SOUTH VIETNAMESE BATTLE DEATHS



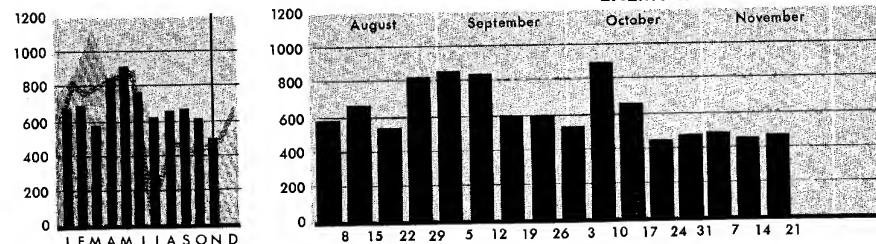
decreased to 167 from the 183 of last week. The official total will change as late reports are received and will be lower than the figures released to the press by the GVN.

INFILTRATORS DETECTED IN PIPELINE



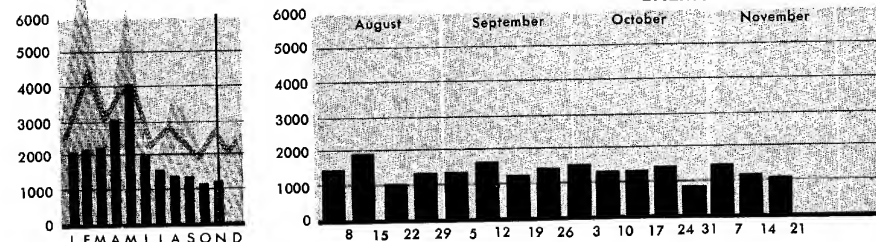
stand at 16 detected and one gap fill group, with a combined strength of nearly 5,000. This raises the number of infiltrators since 1 October 1970 to an estimated 22,500 - 25,000.

ENEMY-INITIATED INCIDENTS



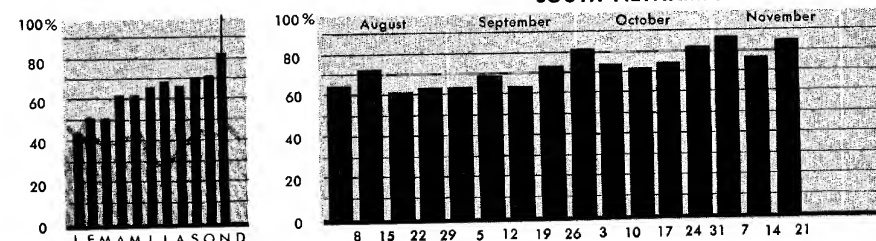
increased slightly to 451 from last week's 434.

ENEMY KILLED IN ACTION



declined from last week's 1,135 to 1,073.

SOUTH VIETNAMESE EFFECTIVENESS



as measured by the percentage of enemy killed by GVN forces rose to 85% from the 77% of last week.

Statistics for the latest week shown are preliminary

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Enemy Activity

Overall enemy-initiated combat activity in South Vietnam remained low throughout the week, but there was an attack on Bien Hoa Air Base involving 30 rounds of 107mm rocket fire. An attempt to infiltrate supplies by sea into the Delta was thwarted when U.S. ships sank a North Vietnamese infiltration trawler -- the first such sinking since early 1968.

In northern Laos, activity was limited to light ground action but evidence of enemy preparations for attacks west of the Plaine des Jarres continues to accumulate. In the south, activity increased significantly. Three important irregular bases on the edge of the Bolovens Plateau were overrun by the Communists, though at least one of these (PS-38) has been reoccupied by friendly forces.

The enemy was active in Cambodia as he maintained pressure in the Kompong Cham area to the east of Phnom Penh and increased it southwest of the capital. Route 4 between Phnom Penh and the port at Kompong Som was interdicted in several places and a power plant and the cartridge factory along it have been occupied, at least temporarily, by the Communists.

Enemy Infiltration

During the past week, 16 positively detected groups and one "gap fill" group, with a combined strength of nearly 5,000, were added to the infiltration estimate. A literal reading of the intercept traffic suggests that a number of these groups are abnormally small but it is possible that the messages we have read reflect only portions of these groups' actual strength. If this is the case, the total input strength figure for the week could go as high as 8,000. Additionally, one new south Laos-bound group was detected, raising the November total for that area to over 2,500. Thus, with nearly one-third of the month still remaining, the total pipeline input for November, including both Laos and Vietnam/Cambodia-bound groups, has already passed the 15,000 mark, the highest figure since March 1969. The total number of infiltrators since 1 October 1970 is now an estimated 22,500 - 25,000.

25X1X6

Developments in South Vietnam

The initial response of the economy to the partial devaluation and other economic measures announced by the GVN on 3 October has been encouraging. The Saigon retail price index has risen a moderate eight percent in the seven weeks since the reforms were instituted, but most of this occurred in November as a result of heavy rains in the Delta which interrupted supply movements. Prices of imported goods -- the goods most directly affected by the reforms -- have remained stable. The black market rate for dollars has dropped from 448 piasters to 404 piasters per dollar, and the rate for military payment certificates (MPC) as of 16 November was equal to the official rate of 275 piasters per dollar. The rice crop now being harvested is expected to be 10 percent larger than last year's bumper crop, and this should help dampen the inflation. Forces working in the other direction, however, include a demand for wage increases, that is still pending, by some 130,000 Vietnamese working for the U.S. sector. A wage increase for these workers would add to inflationary pressures and could also trigger similar demands by other workers.

~~Top Secret~~